GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7231
ANSWERED ON:12.05.2000
OPEN GENERAL LICENCE
R.L. JALAPPA

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has imported tur dal and other agricultural commodities under the Open General Licence during 1999-2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(b) the reasons for importing these agricultural commodities;

(d) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the import of tur dal and other agricultural commodities has affected the tur dal growers of Karnataka; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to stop import of tur dal and other agricultural commodities?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) to (e) Yes, Sir. STC has imported97,000 tons of pulses, including 31,000 tons of Tur dal during the year 1999-2000 on Government account to meet the domestic shortage. Government of Karnataka has suggested increase in import duty and price support operations by Government agencies after suitable increase in minimum support prices. The Ministry of Agriculture which is the nodal Ministry in respect of such proposals has reported that they have not received any communication from the Government of Karnataka drawing their attention to the harmful effects of imports on domestic production of pulses.

Looking at the overall demand supply position in respect of pulses, there is no proposal at present to stop the imports.